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Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "University of Montana gets historic Fergus papers" (1967). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 2814.
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NEWS

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8-9-67

UM GETS HISTORIC FERGUS PAPERS

MISSOULA --

An outstanding collection of the personal papers of one of Montana's ranching and civic pioneers has been loaned to the University of Montana.

Dr. K. Ross Toole, Hammond professor of western history at the Missoula unit, said the James Fergus papers have been loaned for processing, microfilming and graduate research.

The loan was made by Mrs. Hazel Fergus of Lewistown. She married James' son Andrew in 1909, and continues to direct this family's interests in Fergus County.

The papers represent one of the finest preserved personal collections Dr. Toole has acquired for the UM graduate history program. Arnie Gutfeld, UM graduate student in history who completed the negotiations with Mrs. Fergus, said the papers include correspondence, business records, diaries and an excellent photo collection.

James Fergus ranched in the county which bears his name from the earliest days of Montana ranching. He also was a member of the second Montana Constitutional Convention which met in Helena in 1884, and he was a territorial legislator.

He had made notable contributions in Minnesota before coming to Montana. Fergus Falls bears his name in that state.